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The Universal Church And Universal Work

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THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH & UNIVERSAL WORK

Matt. 28:16-20

I. We search high & low for the method to involve all members of the church.

A. We do it by method.

B. We do it by chance.

C. We do it by our inventions & bypass the one central truth that puts us all to work.

1. Position on Ft. ball - drawback. #1

2. Hale quote. #2

II. What is it? Can we find a plan? Where shall I look? Whose church is it - if Jesus wanted such a method, surely He'd tell us of it.

A. What more important time than the Man & his men for the last time - so far as Matthew is concerned?

B. Did he share it?

Matt. 28:16 "Then the disciples went away into Galilee"

III. The Appointment.

A. It was c the Apostles.

1. Wanted to be c them before his departure.

2. Matthew passes by many appearances to get to this one - Who can tell it all?

B. Galilee Mt.

1. Why Galilee - he said go there!

2. Don't know Mt., but do know to do what he said.

3. We do well to get where we are told to be.

C. Saw: Worshipped, Doubted.

1. Worship important to Matthew as rightful homage to the King.
2. He uses it 12 times, the other synoptic gospels only 2X each.
3. Some doubted.
 - a.) Faith in the sincere can waver.
 - b.) Yet all who see Jesus c an eye of faith worship Him.

D. Came Near & Spoke.

1. Was He earlier at a distance.
2. Could His presence not give convincing proof?
3. Did he not want to change doubts to faith?
4. Did they not need His presence & His words?
5. Doesn't the saint & the sinner have a need today of what I can do for them?

IV. The Speech.

A. All Power.

1. All authority - he has the right to send, to command. *where for God h2th highly*
who else in world claims such?
2. Nothing more powerful than He.

Phil. 2:8-11 "And being found in fashion as a man,

I Cor. 15:28 "And when all things shall be subdued u

3. If all power He can overrule anything Heaven or Earth has to his own glory & purpose.
4. He died for all & he has the right to claim the subjection of the whole world to Himself.

B. Go.

1. Urgent - Jackson Card. #3
2. Wide.

3. Strong as strength of duty.
4. Page on the Lite Church. #4

C. Teach all nations.

1. Salvation should be offered to all who do not by unbelief shut themselves out.
2. 1st duty to lost is to teach them.
 - a.) But do we see it only in sermon?
 - b.) Is it not there also in service?
 - c.) Why man accepted Christ. #5

D. Baptize.

Not your preaching; my mother's preaching

1. I have no trouble c this.
2. I'm not in Him until baptized - that's what the sinner needs to do. (2 sides to every story) #6
3. Since all world to hear, we need all Christians busy at it.
4. It is door of admittance.
5. Name.

- a.) Should be "into."
- b.) Name - singular.

1.) To put name of God on place sets it apart.

Deut. 12:5 "But unto the place which the Lord your God shall choose."

Nu. 6:24 "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee."

2.) Administer in name of God, not of men.

c.) Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

(1) Professed dependence on those persons - jointly & equally. We devote ourselves to God!

(2) Christianity a religion wherein we apply for salvation via mercy of God; atonement of Jesus; & teaching of Holy Spirit.

(3) Now in covenant relation.

E. Teach some more.

1. Babes must be further led.
2. O. W. Holmes got forgetful - Couldn't find things. Got on train, "I can't find my ticket." Conductor, "We know you, Judge, just send us a check - that's not the problem - it's where am I going?"
3. Teach commands of Christ.
 - a.) Not men - O. J. Russell page. #7
 - b.) Not our invention.
 - c.) Teach them so they may teach others.
 - d.) Commands of Christ our rules.
 - e.) Observe all - do not diminish or add to.
 - f.) Ever need to be taught.
4. Assumed we learn & teach others.
 - a.) Stomach ache - headache. #8

V. The Encouragement (and we all need it from Heaven & Earth).

A. "I" - emphatic "AM" (God).

B. With you always.

1. His constant presence.
2. God never at a distance.
3. Their heavy task to overcome prejudices & lift from sin to holiness needs his encouragement.
4. Greatest task in the world will have the greatest presence in the world.
5. Perpetual presence.
6. Not one day of interruption to his presence c us.
7. Go to world's last day.

E. End.

1. To the consummation of the ages.

2. Not diminished by lapse of time.

3. We've great promises. *speaking boldly in the land*

Acts 14:3 "Long time therefore abode they speaking b

Isa. 55:11 "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of *Accomplish - Prosper things self*

Heb. 4:12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerf

Jer. 23:29 "Is not my word like as a fire? saith the L

Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Chr

I Cor. 15:58 "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye

F. Amen.

1. Affirmation.

2. Double checked.

VI. What about us?

A. Some - "we will not have this man to reign over us!"

1. Man rejects - God exalts.

2. Very plain & expressive are His words.

B. We've the same message to deliver.

C. Last meeting of Jesus & His men He did 3 things:

1. Assured them of His power.

2. Gave them a commission.

3. Promised His presence.

D. He will return.

Rv. 22:20 "He which testifieth these things saith, Su

VII. I'll work when I see:

A. I've an Appointment

B. I'm to worship - flesh weak

C. All powerful Lord

D. Commission E. Perpetual Presence

Magnolia Bible College, Kosciusko, Miss. 12-10-83

“What position does your son play on the football team, Mrs Jones?”

“I’m not sure,” replied Mrs Jones, “but I think he’s one of the drawbacks.”

I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

Edward Everett Hale

The loving person has no need to be perfect, only human.

Love, by Leo Buscaglia

Words of Wisdom

#8

"Mother, I have a stomach ache,"
5-year-old Dixie said.

"That's because your stomach
is empty," her mother replied.
"You would feel better if you had
something in it."

Later that afternoon the
minister called, and he happened
to remark that he had been suffer-
ing all day with a severe head-
ache. Dixie piped up, "I know
why your head hurts. It's because
it's empty. You'd feel a whole lot
better if you had something in it."

Results

#5

Following a revival meeting, the minister asked a young man what it was that caused him to accept Christ.

“It was not your preaching, sir, but my mother’s practicing that made me want to be a Christian.”

Perhaps if more parents would practice Christianity at home, the pastor’s preaching would bring better results.

James M. Tulloch

RECENT CENSUS BUREAU ESTIMATES reveal that a man graduating from college can look forward to earning almost \$1,400,000 in his lifetime. A male high school graduate can expect to earn just over a million dollars. A dropout may be able to earn only \$845,000 during his entire lifetime.



THE GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY Awards Program annually honors families for their strong ties and special service to fellow citizens. It is sponsored by the American Family Society, a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. Information about its operation can be secured by writing your congressman.

FAMILY FORUM

#4
I had the honor Sunday of preaching to the church in Mineola, Texas, where my father serves as both an elder and pulpit evangelist. The church is flourishing in that small community. It's exciting to realize that God's church can grow in any location, as long as there are people with a mind to work and who'll let God work in them. I know you enjoyed hearing George and Richard Rheimbolt in my absence. I'm looking forward to being with you this coming Sunday and continuing our study of "Discouragement" Causes and Cures."

One of the most interesting publications that crosses my desk is Leadership magazine. One of my favorite parts of the magazine is the cartoons (I just hate a book that doesn't have pictures!). One of the cartoons in the last issue shows a huge sign out in front of the building. It says:

THE LITE CHURCH

- *24% fewer commitments
- *Home of the 7.5% tithe
- *15 minute worship services
- *We have only 8 commandments--your choice
- *Everything you've wanted in a church... and less!

Churches do develop reputations (liberal, conservative, main-line, judgmental, etc.). With all my heart, I hope this family of believers will become known for its love for one another and genuine concern for serving the needs of people. I hope we can gain a reputation for being long in patience, short in self-righteousness, slow to judge and quick to forgive, deeply committed to Christ and highly attached to one another. In summary, I hope Paul would say about us what he did to the church in Colossae:

"We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints--the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is producing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth." (1:3-6)

Sunday will be a very special day of fellowship and praise. Don't miss a minute!

MP

#3
In the middle of the night of December 29 he sat down and wrote a long letter to Blount in a desperate attempt to renew the governor's spirit and courage. The words were sharp, the tone bitter; still he was sure Blount would understand his feeling of "personal regard and public good."

"Is the campaign ended?" he asked. "Is protection afforded to the frontiers of the Territory as contemplated by the act of assembly? Is the creek nation exterminated or conquered?... The answer is plain, is it not?... And are you my Dear Friend sitting with yr. arms folded under the present situation of the campaign recommending me to retrograde to please the whims of the populace and waiting for further orders from the Secy war. Let me tell you it imperiously lies upon both you and me to do our duty regardless of consequences or the opinions of these

fireside patriots, those fawning sycophants or cowardly poltroons who after all their boasted ardor, would rush home or remain at those fireside and let thousands fall victims to my retrograde."

"Andrew Jackson and the Course of American Empire" - Page 203

By Robert V. Remini

SERVING OUR GENERATION

O. J. RUSSELL

Students of history are constantly reminding us that in our age, as in the days of the Roman Empire, a sensate culture has permeated education, art, law, music and every phase of human experience. Nowhere is this condition more evident than in the sector of modern day religious thought. Harvard's Divinity School's Dean Miller says:

"The church simply does not have a cutting edge. It has taken the culture of our time and absorbed it. It is ghastly that the church is run, not to serve the reality of human beings, but to conserve the institution."

Yale's Chaplain, William Sloan Coffin states:

"We churchmen are gifted at changing wine into water — watering down religion. The problem of the church today is ineffectiveness. We've never had attendance so high and influence so low, and maybe the two are not unrelated."

Other religious leaders in the denominational world lament the fact that religion in general has sold out to financial strength, a successful career for the clergy, intellectual dishonesty and donations by big givers.

Just when our generation needs religion the most, organized religion has nothing to offer! What a challenge for the church of our Lord! Never since the early days of the church has the world been so ready to accept what we offer through the gospel. Our plea for restored New Testament Christianity will answer the need of a world which "cannot be certain what is right and what is wrong."